

Privacy Impact Assessment for the VA IT System called:

VHA Centralized Lung CT CAD System Veterans Health Administration (VHA) National Teleradiology Program (NTP) eMASS ID #2219

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System Contacts:

System Contacts

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Abstract

The abstract provides the simplest explanation for "what does the system do for VA?".

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Centralized Lung Computer-Assisted Detection (CAD) system is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) solution and an imaging technology that aids in detection and characterization of lung nodules from Computerized Tomography (CT) scans for lung cancer detection and tracking.

Overview

The overview is the most important section of the Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). A thorough and clear overview gives the reader the appropriate context to understand the responses in the PIA. The overview should contain the following elements:

1 General Description

A. What is the business purpose of the program, Information Technology (IT) system, or technology and how it relates to the program office and agency mission?

VHA Centralized Lung CT CAD System owned by VHA National Teleradiology Program (NTP).

B. Who is the owner or has control of the IT system or project? If the system has an eMASS entry, ensure this information matches with the eMASS entry.

VA Owned and VA Operated. National Teleradiology Program (NTP) is VHA's in house teleradiology service with supporting over 130 Veterans Affairs (VA) Healthcare Centers. NTP will be deploying VHA Centralized Lung CT CAD system (LCS) in support of the following initiatives: Cancer Moonshot 2.0, Lung Cancer Screening (LCS), and Lung Precision Oncology Program (LPOP).

2. Information Collection and Sharing

C. Indicate the expected number of individuals whose information is stored in the system and include a brief description of the typical client or affected individual?

This system is not a long-term storage and no end user clients.

Check if Applicable	Demographic of individuals
	Veterans or Dependents
	VA Employees
	Clinical Trainees
	VA Contractors
	Members of the Public/Individuals
	Volunteers

D. What is a general description of the information in the IT system and the purpose for collecting this information?

The system will retain Personal Identifiable/Protected Health Information (PII/PHI) for a short period of time for the purpose of processing Computed Tomography (CT) scans. The system retains PHI/PII and Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) images for up to 7 days and can be configured for less.

E. What information sharing is conducted by the IT system? A general description of the modules and components, where relevant, and their functions.

DICOM images are captured by CT, routed via DICOM Compass router to Lung CT CAD system (LCS.) LCS processes DICOM images and creates secondary CT series that is routed to DICOM Compass Router (CR) to local Picture Archive and Communication System (PACS) for long term storage. The system will be hosted in VA Enterprise Cloud (VAEC) – Microsoft Azure. LCS consists of 27 servers that are running Windows Server 2019.

F. Are the modules/subsystems only applicable if information is shared?

Data are not shared external to VHA PACS.

G. Is the system operated in more than one site to include primary and secondary site, and if so, a description of how use of the system and PII is maintained consistently in all sites and if the same controls are used across sites?

DICOM images are captured by CT, routed via DICOM Compass router to LCS. LCS processes DICOM images and creates secondary CT series that is routed to DICOM Compass Router to local PACS for long term storage. The system will be hosted in VA

Enterprise Cloud – Microsoft Azure. LCS consists of 27 servers that are running Windows Server 2019. The same security controls are used across all 18 VISNs.

- 3. Legal Authority and System of Record Notices (SORN)
 - H. What is the citation of the legal authority?

The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, establishes a code of fair information practices that governs the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of information about individuals that is maintained in systems of records by federal agencies. The authority of maintenance of the system listed in question 1.1 falls under Title 28, United States Code, title 38, U.S.C., sections 501(a), 1705, 1710, 1722, and 5317.

I. What is the SORN?

 \square Yes \boxtimes No *if yes,*

A SORN does not apply to the information in the system as it is not searchable by an individual's unique identifier but the information used comes from the Veteran medical record that falls under SORN SORN 24VA10A7 "Patient Medical Record-VA" which has authority to maintain the records

under Title 38, United States Code, Section 501(b) and 304.

J. If the system is in the process of being modified and a SORN exists, will the SORN require amendment or revision and approval.

No SORN amendment or revision will be required for this system.

4. System Changes
K. Will the business processes change due to the information collection and sharing?
☐ Yes
☒ No
if yes,
I. Will the technology changes impact information collection and sharing?

Section 1. Characterization of the Information

¹ *Specify type of Certificate or

Occupational, Education, Medical)

License Number (e.g.,

The following questions are intended to define the scope of the information requested and collected as well as the reasons for its collection as part of the program, IT system, or technology being developed.

1.1 Information collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained in the system.

Identify and list all Sensitive Personal Information (SPI) that is collected and stored in the system, including Individually Identifiable Information (III), Individually Identifiable Health Information (IIHI), Protected Health Information (PHI), and Privacy- Protected Information. For additional information on these information types and definitions, please see VA Directives and Handbooks in the 6500 series (https://vaww.va.gov/vapubs/). If the system creates information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the information the system is responsible for creating.

If a requesting system receives information from another system, such as a response to a background check, describe what information is returned to the requesting system.

This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority to Collect, and AP-2, Purpose Specification.

The information selected below must match the information provided in question 2.1 as well as the data elements columns in 4.1 and 5.1. It must also match the information provided in question 3.4 of the PTA.

Please check any information listed below that your system collects, uses, disseminates, creates, or maintains. If additional SPI is collected, used, disseminated, created, or maintained, please list those in the text box below:

text box below.		
Name Nam	☐ Financial Information	Number (ICN)
☑ Full Social Security	☐ Health Insurance	☐ Military History/Service
Number	Beneficiary Numbers	Connection
☐ Partial Social Security	Account Numbers	☐ Next of Kin
Number	☐ Certificate/License	☐ Date of Death
☑ Date of Birth	Numbers ¹	☐ Business Email Address
☐ Mother's Maiden	☐ Vehicle License Plate	☐ Electronic Data
Name	Number	Interchange Personal
☐ Personal Mailing	☐ Internet Protocol (IP)	Identifier (EDIPI)
Address	Address Numbers	☑ Other Data Elements
☐ Personal Phone	☐ Medications	(List Below)
Number(s)	☐ Medical Records	
☐ Personal Fax Number	☐ Race/Ethnicity	
☐ Personal Email Address	☐ Tax Identification	
☐ Emergency Contact	Number	
Information (Name,	☑ Medical Record Number	
Phone Number, etc. of a	⊠ Sex	
Different Individual)	☐ Integrated Control	
Other PII/PHI data elements:		
 Accession Number 		

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• Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) Images

1.2 List the sources of the information in the system

These questions are related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.

1.2a List the individual, entity, or entities providing the specific information identified above. For example, is the information collected directly from the individual as part of an application for a benefit, or is it collected from other sources such as commercial data aggregators?

CT scans or DICOM images would come from imaging modality (CT) and routed via DICOM Compass Router.

1.2b Describe why information from sources other than the individual is required? For example, if a program's system is using data from a commercial aggregator of information or data taken from public Web sites, state the fact that this is where the information is coming from and then in question indicate why the system is using this source of data.

Information from commercial aggregator is not used. DICOM images and patient information is received from DICOM modality which is coming from patient medical record.

1.2c Does the system create information (for example, a score, analysis, or report), list the system as a source of information?

System is a source of information as it creates a secondary capture and nodule measurements.

1.3 Methods of information collection

These questions are related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and IP-1, Consent.

1.3a This question is directed at the means of collection from the sources listed in question 1.2. Information may be collected directly from an individual, received via electronic transmission from another system, or created by the system itself. Specifically, is information collected through technologies or other technologies used in the storage or transmission of information in identifiable form?

DICOM images, includes PHI/PII, is transferred to LCS from imaging modality, CT.

1.3b If the information is collected on a form and is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, what is the form's OMB control number and the agency form number?

The information is not collected on a form and is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act.

1.4 Information checks for accuracy, and how often will it be checked.

These questions are related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, and DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board.

1.4a Discuss whether and how often information stored in the system is checked for accuracy. Is information in the system checked against any other source of information (within or outside your

organization) before the information is used to make decisions about an individual? For example, is there a computer matching agreement in place with another government agency? For systems that receive data from internal data sources or VA IT systems, describe the system checks to ensure that data corruption has not occurred during transmission.

Information used by the system is from an individual's medical record and is checked for accuracy by medical staff at and during point of care.

1.4b Does the system check for accuracy by accessing a commercial aggregator of information, describe this process and the levels of accuracy required by the contract?

The system does not check for accuracy using commercial aggregator of information.

1.5 Identify the specific legal authorities, arrangements, and agreements that defined the collection of information.

List the full legal authority for operating the system, specifically the authority to collect the information listed in question 1.1. Provide the authorities in a manner understandable to any potential reader, i.e., do not simply provide a legal citation; use statute names or regulations in addition to citations. Legal authorities include Federal laws, regulations, statutes, and Executive Orders. This question is related to privacy control AP-1, Authority to Collect

The Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 552a, establishes a code of fair information practices that governs the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of information about individuals that is maintained in systems of records by federal agencies. The authority of maintenance of the system listed in question 1.1 falls under Title 28, United States Code, title 38, U.S.C., sections 501(a), 1705, 1710, 1722, and 5317.

1.6 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Characterization of the information

Consider the specific data elements collected and discuss the potential privacy risks and what steps, if any are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

Consider the following Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs) when assessing the risk to individual privacy:

<u>Principle of Purpose Specification:</u> The collection ties with the purpose of the underlying mission of the organization and its enabling authority.

<u>Principle of Minimization:</u> The information is directly relevant and necessary to accomplish the specific purposes of the program.

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> The program, to the extent possible and practical, collects information directly from the individual.

<u>Principle of Data Quality and Integrity:</u> VA policies and procedures must ensure that personally identifiable information is accurate, complete, and current.

This is related to privacy control AR-1, Governance and Privacy Program, and AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment.

Follow the format below when entering your risk assessment:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> Due to the highly sensitive nature of the data collected, there is a risk that, if the data were accessed by an unauthorized individual or otherwise breached, it could result in professional, or other harm to the Veterans impacted.

Mitigation: Access controls are in place to limit access to those VA employees who have a need to know for their official job duties. PII/PHI retained by the system is short term and is purged after 7 days. The system will be isolated per Medical Device Isolation Architecture (MDIA) guidance and medical system will not have access to the internet. In addition, access to the system is restricted to system administrators only and must go through Electronic Permission Access System (ePAS) for access approval.

Section 2. Uses of the Information

The following questions are intended to clearly delineate the use of information and the accuracy of the data being used.

2.1 Describe how the information in the system that will be used in support of the program's business purpose.

Identify and list each use (both internal and external to VA) of the information collected or maintained. This question is related to privacy control AP-2, Purpose Specification.

PII/PHI Data Element	Internal Use	External Use
Name	Used to identify the Veteran	Not used
	patient.	
Date of Birth	Used to identify the Veteran	Not used
	patient.	
Social Security Number (or	Used to identify the Veteran	Not used
Medical Record Number)	patient.	
Sex	Used to identify the Veteran	Not used
	patient.	
Accession Number	Used to link the data with other	Not used
	systems.	
DICOM Images	Used for analysis.	Not used

2.2 Describe the types of tools used to analyze data and what type of data may be produced. These questions are related to privacy controls DI-1, Data Quality, DI-2, Data Integrity and Integrity Board, and SE-1, Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information.

2.2a Many systems sift through large amounts of information in response to a user inquiry or programmed functions. Systems may help identify areas that were previously not obvious and need additional research by agents, analysts, or other employees. Some systems perform complex

analytical tasks resulting in, among other types of data, matching, relational analysis, scoring, reporting, or pattern analysis. Describe any type of analysis the system conducts and the data that is created from the analysis?

LCS uses Riverain ClearRead CT 5.x for lung nodule detection which uses AI technology.

2.2b If the system creates or makes available new or previously unutilized information about an individual, explain what will be done with the newly derived information. Will it be placed in the individual's existing record? Will a new record be created? Will any action be taken against or for the individual identified because of the newly derived data? If a new record is created, will the newly created information be accessible to Government employees who make determinations about the individual? If so, explain fully under which circumstances and by whom that information will be used.

Once the system finishes the processing the DICOM images, new image series are returned to be placed in the existing record on the same accession number. Lung nodule measurements and data are transferred to the local PowerScribe system which is available for Radiologists to use in the patient's medical records.

2.3 How the information in the system is secured.

These questions are related to security and privacy controls SC-9, Transmission Confidentiality, and SC-28, Protection of Information at Rest.

2.3a What measures are in place to protect data in transit and at rest?

The system is hosted in Veterans Affairs Enterprise Cloud (VAEC) and data in transit is encrypted.

2.3b If the system is collecting, processing, or retaining Social Security Numbers, are there additional protections in place to protect SSNs? (refer to PTA question 3.8).

The system will be isolated behind a firewall per MDIA guidance. Physical access to the system is restricted to system administrators and approved by business owner via ePAS portal. The system will be secured with antivirus, Windows Defender. Lastly, the system will be hosted in VA Enterprise Cloud and data in transit encrypted.

2.3c How is PII/PHI safeguarded in accordance with OMB Memorandum M-06-15?

System administrators go through annual VA Privacy and Information Security training. The system does not retain PII/PHI long term. In addition, the system will be isolated per MDIA guidance. The system will be hosted in VA Enterprise Cloud and data in transit will be encrypted. Access to the servers is restricted to system administrators and no end user access required for this system.

2.4 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Use of the information.

Describe any types of controls that may be in place to ensure that information is handled in accordance with the uses described above. Example: Describe if training for users of the project covers how to appropriately use information. Describe the disciplinary programs or system controls (i.e. denial of access) that are in place if an individual is inappropriately using the information.

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

<u>Principle of Transparency:</u> Is the PIA and SORN, if applicable, clear about the uses of the information?

<u>Principle of Use Limitation:</u> Is the use of information contained in the system relevant to the mission of the project?

This question is related to privacy control AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing, AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training, and SE-2, Privacy Incident response.

2.4a How is access to the PII determined?

The system has no client interface therefore no end users access required for the system. Access is restricted to system administrators. Access is approved by Business Owner and approved through ePAS portal.

2.4b Are criteria, procedures, controls, and responsibilities regarding access documented? How are the documented, i.e. Policy, SOP, other. And where is this documentation located?

Access to the system is limited to system administrator and is approved and documented by Business Owner through ePAS portal.

2.4c Does access require manager approval?

There are no end users or clients. Access to the system is limited to system administrator and is approved by Business Owner. System administrators must go through ePAS portal to request access to the system.

2.4d Is access to the PII being monitored, tracked, or recorded?

Access to PII is not being monitored, tracked, or recorded.

2.4e Who is responsible for assuring safeguards for the PII as identified in eMASS?

Business Owner and system administrators.

Section 3. Retention of Information

The following questions are intended to outline how long information will be retained after the initial collection.

3.1 What information is retained?

Identify and list all information collected from question 1.1 that is **retained** by the system. This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal

- Name
- · Date of Birth
- Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number)
- Sex
- Accession Number
- DICOM Images

3.2 How long is information retained?

In some cases, VA may choose to retain files in active status and archive them after a certain period of time. State active file retention periods, as well as archived records, in number of years, for the information and record types. For example, financial data held within your system may have a different retention period than medical records or education records held within your system, please be sure to list each of these retention periods. If the system is using cloud technology, will it be following the NARA approved retention length and schedule https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/grs? This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

This system is not a long-term storage and the information retained is short term, by default configured for up to seven (7) days and can be configured to retain for shorter period.

3.3 The retention schedule approved by the VA records office and the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

An approved records schedule must be obtained for any IT system that allows the retrieval of a record via a personal identifier. The VA records officer will assist in providing a proposed schedule. Please work with the system VA Records Officer to answer these questions. This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

3.3a Are all records stored within the system of record indicated on an approved disposition authority?

Yes. The records for this system are maintained under the VA Records Control Schedule (RCS 10-1) 6000.2.c(1) with disposition authority N1-15-02-3, item 4 which permits the record to be destroyed when it is no longer needed for administrative or clinical operations. https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/rcs10/rcs10-1.pdf

3.3b Please indicate each records retention schedule, series, and disposition authority?

The records for this system are maintained under the VA Records Control Schedule (RCS 10-1) 6000.2.c(1) with disposition authority N1-15-02-3, item 4. https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/rcs10/rcs10-1.pdf

3.4 What are the procedures for the elimination or transfer of SPI?

Explain how records are destroyed, eliminated, or transferred to NARA at the end of their mandatory retention period. Please give the details of the process. For example, are paper records shredded on site, or by a shredding company and accompanied by a certificate of destruction, etc.? This question is related to privacy control DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

There are no paper records and electronic records are purged every 7 days. The system is not a creator of records. Electronic data and files of any type, including Protected Health Information (PHI), Sensitive Personal Information (SPI), Human Resources records, and more are destroyed in accordance with VA Directive 6500 VA Cybersecurity Program (February 24, 2021) and VA Handbook 6500.1 Electronic Media Sanitization. When required, this data is deleted from their file location and then permanently deleted from the deleted items or Recycle bin. Magnetic media is wiped and sent out for destruction. Digital media is shredded or sent out for destruction. https://www.va.gov/vapubs/search_action.cfm?dType=1

3.5 Does the system, where feasible, use techniques to minimize the risk to privacy by using PII for research, testing, or training?

Organizations often use PII for testing new applications or information systems prior to deployment. Organizations also use PII for research purposes and for training. These uses of PII increase the risks associated with the unauthorized disclosure or misuse of the information. Please explain what controls have been implemented to protect PII used for testing, training, and research. This question is related to privacy control DM-3, Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training and Research.

This system will not be used for testing, training, or research.

3.6 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Retention of information

Discuss the risks associated with the length of time data is retained and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks. (Work with your System Privacy Officer (PO) to complete all Privacy Risk questions inside the document in this section).

While we understand that establishing retention periods for records is a formal process, there are policy considerations behind how long a project keeps information. The longer a project retains information, the longer it needs to secure the information and assure its accuracy and integrity. The proposed schedule should match the requirements of the Privacy Act to keep the minimum amount of PII for the minimum amount of time, while meeting the Federal Records Act. The schedule should align with the stated purpose and mission of the system.

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

<u>Principle of Minimization:</u> The project retains only the information necessary for its purpose, additionally, the PII is retained only for as long as necessary and relevant to fulfill the specified purposes.

<u>Principle of Data Quality and Integrity:</u> The PIA should describe policies and procedures for how PII that is no longer relevant and necessary is purged.

This question is related to privacy controls DM-1, Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information, and DM-2, Data Retention and Disposal.

Follow the format below:

Privacy Risk: There is a risk that the information maintained by the system could be retained for longer than is necessary to fulfill the VA mission. Records held longer than required are at greater risk of being unintentionally released, breached, or exploited for reasons other than what is described in the privacy documentation associated with the information.

Mitigation: To mitigate the risk posed by information retention, the system will adhere to the VA RCS schedules for each category or data it maintains. When the retention data is reached for a record, the medical center will carefully dispose of the data by the determined method as described in question 3.4.

Section 4. Internal Sharing/Receiving/Transmitting and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the scope of information sharing/receiving/transmitting within VA.

PII Mapping of Components

4.1a Lung CT CAD System (LCS) consists of 27 key components (servers/databases/instances/applications/software/application programming interfaces (API)). Each component has been analyzed to determine if any elements of that component collect PII. The type of PII collected by LCS and the reasons for the collection of the PII are in the table below.

Note: Due to the PIA being a public facing document, please do not include server names in the table. The first table of 3.9a in the PTA should be used to answer this question.

Internal Components Table

Component Name (Database, Instances, Application, Software, Application Program Interface (API) etc.) that contains PII/PHI	Does this system collect PII? (Yes/No)	Does this system store PII? (Yes/No)	Type of PII (SSN, DOB, etc.)	Reason for Collection/ Storage of PII	Safeguards
27 Servers	Yes	Yes	-Name -Date of Birth -Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number) -Sex -Accession Number -DICOM Images	Lung Cancer Screening Node identification in CT images.	There is no user access, and this system is not a long-term storage and the information retained is short term, by default configured for up to seven (7) days and can be configured to retain for shorter period.

4.1b List internal organizations information is shared/received/transmitted, the information shared/received/transmitted, and the purpose, and how the information is transmitted.

NOTE: Question 3.9b (second table) on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.

Identify and list the names of any program offices, contractor-supported IT systems, and any other organization or IT system within VA with which information is shared.

State the purpose for the internal sharing. If you have specific authority to share the information, provide a citation to the authority.

For each interface with a system outside your program office, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with the specific program office, contractor-supported IT system, and any other organization or IT system within VA.

Describe how the information is transmitted. For example, is the information transmitted electronically, by paper, or by some other means? Is the information shared in bulk, on a case-by-case basis, or does the sharing partner have direct access to the information? This question is related to privacy controls AP-2, Purpose Specification, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures, TR-1, Privacy Notice, and UL-1, Internal Use.

Data Shared with Internal Organizations

IT system and/or Program office. Information is shared/received with VISN PACS (Picture Archiving and	List the purpose of the information being shared /received with the specified program office or IT system Query/retrieve prior studies	List PII/PHI data elements shared/received/transmitted. Name Date of Birth	Describe the method of transmittal Query/retrieve on ports 104,
Communication System)		 Sex Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number) Accession Number DICOM Images 	107, 2104, 5000
DICOM Compass Router	DICOM image Transfer	 Name Date of Birth Sex Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number) Accession Number DICOM Images 	DICOM Ports 104, 11112
Nuance Powerscribe360 (PS360)	Automatic quantification of findings sent to PS360	 Name Date of Birth Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number) Accession Number 	Ports 80, 443
Individual Veterans Health Administration facilities (VISNs 1- 23)	DICOM images and patient data	 Name Date of Birth Sex Social Security Number (or Medical Record Number) Accession Number DICOM Images 	DICOM Compass Router Ports 104, 11112

IT system and/or	List the purpose of the	List PII/PHI data elements	Describe the
Program office.	information being	shared/received/transmitted.	method of
Information is	shared /received with		transmittal
shared/received with	the specified program		
	office or IT system		

4.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Internal sharing and disclosure

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information within the VA network and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks. (Work with your System ISSO to complete all Privacy Risk questions in this section.).

This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Internal Use.

Follow the format below:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> There is a risk that information may be shared with unauthorized VA program or system or that data could be shared.

<u>Mitigation:</u> Safeguards implemented to ensure data is not sent to the wrong VA organization are employee security and privacy training and awareness and required reporting of suspicious activity. Use of secure passwords, access for need-to-know basis', PIV Cards, PIN numbers, encryption, and access authorization are all measures that are utilized.

Section 5. External Sharing/Receiving and Disclosure

The following questions are intended to define the content, scope, and authority for information sharing external to VA, which includes Federal, State, and local governments, and the private sector.

5.1 List the external organizations (outside VA) that information shared/received. and information shared/received, and the purpose, and how the information transmitted and what measures are taken to ensure it is secure.

The sharing of information outside the agency must be compatible with the original collection. The sharing must be covered by an appropriate routine use in a SORN. If not covered, please describe under what legal mechanism the IT system is allowed to share the information in identifiable form or personally identifiable information outside of VA.

NOTE: Question 3.10 on Privacy Threshold Analysis should be used to answer this question.

Identify and list the names of any Federal, State, or local government agency or private sector organization with which information is shared.

For each interface with a system outside VA, state what specific data elements (PII/PHI) are shared with each specific partner.

What legal mechanisms, authoritative agreements, documentation, or policies are in place detailing the extent of the sharing and the duties of each party? For example, is the sharing of data compatible

with your SORN? Then list the SORN and the applicable routine use from the SORN. Is there a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Computer Matching Agreement (CMA), or law that mandates the sharing of this information?

Describe how the information is transmitted to entities external to VA and what security measures have been taken to protect it during transmission.

This question is related to privacy control UL-2, Information Sharing with Third Parties

Data Shared with External Organizations

List IT System or External Program Office information is shared/received with	List the purpose of information being shared / received / transmitted	List the specific PII/PHI data elements that are processed (shared/received/transmitted)	List agreements such as: Contracts, MOU/ISA, BAA, SORN. etc. that permit external sharing (can be more than one)	List the method of transmission and the measures in place to secure data
Riverain Technologies	Remote service support	 Number of processors Number of successful processing attempts Prior information (available, number retrieved, success/failure) Input/output queue timing Processing length of time 	MOU/ISA	S2S VPN Connection

5.2 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: External sharing and disclosure

Discuss the privacy risks associated with the sharing of information outside the Department and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks.

If no External Sharing listed on the table above, (State there is no external sharing in both the risk and mitigation fields).

Discuss whether access controls have been implemented and whether audit logs are regularly reviewed to ensure appropriate sharing outside of the Department. For example, is there a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), contract, or agreement in place with outside agencies or foreign governments.

Discuss how the sharing of information outside of the Department is compatible with the stated purpose and use of the original collection.

This question is related to privacy control AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers, and AR-4, Privacy Monitoring and Auditing

Follow the format below:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> Information shared with the Vendor would be for remote service support which would include logs. Veteran PII/PHI is not intended to be disclosed. There is a risk that PII/PHI could be shared while troubleshooting problems with the system.

<u>Mitigation:</u> Safeguards implemented to ensure data is not shared inappropriately with organizations are employee security and privacy training and awareness and required reporting of suspicious activity. Standing letters for information exchange and memorandums of understanding between agencies and VA are in place to ensure that unauthorized disclosures are reported to VA.

Section 6. Notice

The following questions are directed at providing notice to the individual of the scope of information collected, the right to consent to uses of the information, and the right to decline to provide information.

6.1 The notice provided to the individual before collection of the information. Please provide a copy and/or screen shot of a web notice of the notice as an Appendix-A 6.1 on the last page of the document. (A notice may include a posted privacy policy, a Privacy Act notice on forms, notice given to individuals by the sources system, or a system of records notice published in the Federal Register.) If notice was not provided, explain why.

These questions are related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, and TR-2, System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements, and TR-3, Dissemination of Privacy Program Information.

6.1a Provide the Privacy Notice provided to the public by this system or any source systems. Include a copy of the notice in Appendix A of the PIA, the Federal Register citation, or Privacy Statement from collection of information such as forms or surveys.

The VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=9946 explains the collection and use of protected health information to individuals receiving health care from VA. The NOPP is mailed every three years or when there is a major change to all enrolled Veterans. Non-Veterans receiving care are provided the notice at the time of their encounter.

This Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) also serves as notice as required by the eGovernment Act of 2002, Pub.L. 107–347 §208(b)(1)(B)(iii), the Department of Veterans Affairs "after completion of the [PIA] under clause (ii), make the privacy impact assessment publicly available through the website of the agency, publication in the Federal Register, or other means."

6.1b If notice was not provided, explain why.

Notice was provided as stated in 6.1a

6.1c Provide how the notice provided at the time of collection meets the purpose of use for this system.

Notice was provided as stated in 6.1a

6.2 Do individuals have the opportunity and right to decline to provide information? If so, is a penalty or denial of service attached?

This question is directed at whether the person from or about whom information is collected can decline to provide the information and if so, whether a penalty or denial of service is attached. This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent, IP-2, Individual Access, and IP-3, Redress.

Information is requested when it is necessary to administer benefits to veterans and other potential beneficiaries. While an individual may choose not to provide information, this may prevent them from obtaining the benefits necessary to them.

6.3 Do individuals have the right to consent to particular uses of the information? If so, how does the individual exercise the right?

This question is directed at whether an individual may provide consent for specific uses, or the consent is given to cover all uses (current or potential) of his or her information. If specific consent is required, how would the individual consent to each use? This question is related to privacy control IP-1, Consent.

Individuals are provided with a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices that indicates when information will be used without their consent and when they will be asked to provide consent. Information is used, accessed and disclosed in accordance with the Privacy Act, 5 USC 552a, Title 38 USC 5701, Confidential Nature of Claims, Title USC 7332 and the HIPAA Privacy Rule 45 CFR.

Individuals or their legal representative may consent to the use or disclosure of information via a written request submitted to the Privacy Officer at the facility where they receive their care. Individuals also have the right to request a restriction to the use of their information. The written request must state what information and/or to whom the information is restricted and must include their signature and date of the request. The request is then forwarded to facility Privacy Officer for review and processing. Individuals may also request to Opt-Out of the facility directory during an inpatient admission. If the individual chooses to opt-out, information is not disclosed from the facility directory unless otherwise required by law.

6.4 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Notice

Describe the potential risks associated with potentially insufficient notice and what steps, if any, are currently being taken to mitigate those identified risks. (Work with your Privacy Officer (PO) to complete all Privacy Risk questions inside the document this section).

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

<u>Principle of Transparency:</u> This is referring to sufficient notice provided to the individual.

<u>Principle of Use Limitation:</u> The information used only for the purpose for which notice was provided either directly to the individual or through a public notice. The procedures in place must ensure that information is used only for the purpose articulated in the notice. This question is related to privacy control TR-1, Privacy Notice, AR-2, Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment, and UL-1, Internal Use.

Follow the format below:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> There is a risk that veterans and other members of the public will not know that the system exists or that it collects, maintains, and/or disseminates PII, PHI or PII/PHI about them.

Mitigation: This risk is mitigated by the common practice of providing the Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) when Veterans are enrolled for health care. Employees and contractors are required to review, sign and abide by the National Rules of Behavior on a yearly basis as required by VA Handbook 6500 as well as complete annual mandatory Information Security and Privacy Awareness training. Additional mitigation is provided by making Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) available for review online, as discussed in question 6.1 and the Overview section of this PIA.

Section 7. Access, Redress, and Correction

The following questions are directed at an individual's ability to ensure the accuracy of the information collected about him or her.

7.1 The procedures that allow individuals to gain access to their information.

These questions are related to privacy control IP-2, Individual Access, and AR-8, Accounting of Disclosures.

7.1a Cite any procedures or regulations your program has in place that allow access to information. These procedures, at a minimum, should include the agency's FOIA/Privacy Act practices, but may also include additional access provisions. For example, if your program has a customer satisfaction unit, that information, along with phone and email contact information, should be listed in this section in addition to the agency's procedures. See 5 CFR 294 and the VA FOIA Web page at VA Public Access Link-Home (efoia-host.com) to obtain information about FOIA points of contact and information about agency FOIA processes.

There are several ways a veteran or other beneficiary may access information about them. The Department of Veterans' Affairs has created the MyHealthEVet program to allow online access to their medical records. More information on this program and how to sign up to participate can be found online at https://www.myhealth.va.gov/index.html. Veterans and other individuals may also request copies of their medical records and other records containing personal data from the medical facility's Release of Information (ROI) office.

VHA Directive 1605.01, Privacy and Release of Information, Paragraph 7 outlines policy and procedures for VHA and its staff to provide individuals with access to and copies of their PII in compliance with the Privacy Act and HIPAA Privacy Rule requirements. VHA also created VA form

10-5345a for use by individuals in requesting copies of their health information under right of access. VA Form 10-5345a is voluntary but does provide an easy way for individual to request their records.

7.1b If the system is exempt from the access provisions of the Privacy Act, please explain the basis for the exemption or cite the source where this explanation may be found, for example, a Final Rule published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)?

The system is not exempt.

7.1c If the system is not a Privacy Act system, please explain what procedures and regulations are in place that covers an individual gaining access to his or her information?

This system does not have its own Privacy Act system of record, but the information is collected from the Veteran medical record and it may be obtained as described in section 7.1a above.

7.2 What are the procedures for correcting inaccurate or erroneous information?

Describe the procedures and provide contact information for the appropriate person to whom such issues should be addressed? If the correction procedures are the same as those given in question 7.1, state as much. This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

While there are no processes for amending information that is in this system, the information is obtained from the Veteran Medical record which can be amended. The VHA Notice of Privacy Practices informs individuals how to file an amendment request with VHA. A request for amendment of information contained in a system of records must be delivered to the System Manager, or designee, for the concerned VHA system of records, and the facility Privacy Officer, or designee, to be date stamped; and is filed appropriately. In reviewing requests to amend or correct records, the System Manager must be guided by the criteria set forth in VA regulation 38 CFR 1.579. That is, VA must maintain in its records only such information about an individual that is accurate, complete, timely, relevant, and necessary. Individuals have the right to review and change their contact or demographic information at time of appointment or upon arrival to the VA facility and/or submit a change of address request form to the facility business office for processing. If corrections are needed for legal name, date of birth, or Social Security Number (SSN) changes, Patient Registration would process the request requiring a valid driver's license, state identification, passport, military ID, or a letter from the Social Security Administration stating the changes and a wet signature from the individual requesting the change. The facility Privacy Officer handles requests for these changes.

7.3 How are individuals notified of the procedures for correcting their information?

How are individuals made aware of the procedures for correcting his or her information? This may be through notice at collection or other similar means. This question is meant to address the risk that

even if procedures exist to correct information, if an individual is not made fully aware of the existence of those procedures, then the benefits of the procedures are significantly weakened. This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

Veterans are informed of the amendment process by many resources to include the VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) which states:

Right to Request Amendment of Health Information. You have the right to request an amendment (correction) to your health information in our records if you believe it is incomplete, inaccurate, untimely, or unrelated to your care. You must submit your request in writing, specify the information that you want corrected, and provide a reason to support your request for amendment. All amendment requests should be submitted to the facility Privacy Officer at the VHA health care facility that maintains your information.

If your request for amendment is denied, you will be notified of this decision in writing and provided appeal rights. In response, you may do any of the following: • File an appeal

- File a "Statement of Disagreement"
- Ask that your initial request for amendment accompany all future disclosures of the disputed health information Individuals seeking information regarding access to and contesting of VA benefits records may write, call or visit the nearest VA regional office.

Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP): VHA Notice of Privacy Practices

7.4 If no formal redress is provided, what alternatives are available to the individual?

Redress is the process by which an individual gains access to his or her records and seeks corrections or amendments to those records. Redress may be provided through the Privacy Act and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), and also by other processes specific to a program, system, or group of systems. Example: Some projects allow users to directly access and correct/update their information online. This helps ensures data accuracy.

This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress, and IP-4, Complaint Management.

Formal redress via the amendment process is available to all individuals, as stated in questions 7.1-7.3 Redress is provided through the Privacy Act for the individual to view and request correction to the inaccurate or erroneous information. If the request is denied, the individual to appeal the decision by writing to the Office of General Counsel (024); Department of Veterans Affairs; 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20420. The Privacy Act and HIPAA permit the individual to also complete a Statement of Disagreement to the information that was denied correction. The facility would be able to include a rebuttal to the Statement of Disagreement. The Statement of Disagreement, rebuttal, and denial letter would be attached to the information that was requested to be corrected and would be released with the information at any time the information was authorized for release. Veterans can also update their personal information through My HealtheVet (MHV). Information they can update includes things such as demographics and secure messaging. The Veterans can use MHV as required to agree to the terms of conditions of use and are responsible for the information that is stored and transmitted through the site. Also, Veterans are required to sign VA form 10-5345a before they have access to medical record information through MHV. This form covers the use of Secure Messaging as well. The Veteran assumes responsibility for any medical

information available on MHV as well as information sent from them or to them through secure messaging. There is a separate set of terms and conditions that veterans must agree to before communicating via Secure Messaging. They must submit VA Form 10-5345a- MHV. My HealtheVet is a Department of Veterans Affairs computer system. This computer system, including all related equipment, networks, and network devices (specifically including Internet access) is provided only for authorized use. VA computer systems may be monitored for all lawful purposes, including ensuring that their use is authorized, managing the system, protecting against unauthorized access, and verifying security procedures, survivability, and operational security.

7.5 PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESSMENT: Access, redress, and correction

Discuss what risks there currently are related to the Department's access, redress, and correction policies and procedures for this system and what, if any, steps have been taken to mitigate those risks. For example, if a project does not allow individual access, the risk of inaccurate data needs to be discussed in light of the purpose of the project. For example, providing access to ongoing law enforcement activities could negatively impact the program's effectiveness because the individuals involved might change their behavior. (Work with your Privacy Officer (PO) to complete all Privacy Risk questions in this section).

Consider the following FIPPs below to assist in providing a response:

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> The individual must be provided with the ability to find out whether a project maintains a record relating to them.

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> If access and/or correction is denied, then is the individual must be provided notice as to why the denial was made and how to challenge such a denial.

<u>Principle of Individual Participation:</u> The mechanism by which an individual is able to prevent information about them obtained for one purpose from being used for other purposes without their knowledge.

This question is related to privacy control IP-3, Redress.

Follow the format below:

<u>Privacy Risk:</u> There is a risk that members of the public will not know the relevant procedures for gaining access to, correcting, or contesting their information.

Mitigation: The system mitigates the risk of incorrect information in an individual's records by authenticating information when possible, using the resources discussed in question 1.5. Additionally, staff verifies information in medical records and corrects information identified as incorrect during each patient's medical appointments. As discussed in question 7.3, the NOPP, which every enrolled Veteran receives every three years or when there is a major change. The NOPP discusses the process for requesting an amendment to one's records. The VISN 4 facilities Release of Information (ROI) office is available to assist Veterans with obtaining access to their health records and other records containing personal information. The Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) established MyHealthyVet program to provide Veterans remote access to their medical records. The Veteran must enroll and have access to the premium account to obtain access to all the available features. In addition, VHA Directive 1605.01 Privacy and Release of Information establishes procedures for Veterans to have their records amended where appropriate.

Section 8. Technical Access and Security

The following questions are intended to describe technical safeguards and security measures. (Work with your ISSO to complete this section).

8.1 The procedures in place to determine which users may access the system, must be documented.

These questions are related to privacy control AR-7, Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development.

8.1a Describe the process by which an individual receives access to the system?

No end user access is required and no user interface. System administrators only have access to the system for maintaining and troubleshooting purposes.

To gain administrator access, users must submit an ePAS request to gain access to the appropriate LCS security groups.

System administrators must have an elevated privilege account (0 token) and must go through ePAS portal to be given access to the appropriate LCS security groups.

8.1b Identify users from other agencies who may have access to the system and under what roles these individuals have access to the system. Who establishes the criteria for what PII can be shared?

No external users need access to the system.

8.1c Describe the different roles in general terms that have been created to provide access to the system? For example, certain users may have "read-only" access while others may be permitted to make certain amendments or changes to the information.

Only system administrators access the system. No general or regular users.

8.2. Contractor signed Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), Business Associate Agreement (BAA) etc. in place.

How frequently are contracts reviewed and by whom? Describe the necessity of the access provided to contractors to the system and whether clearance is required. If Privacy Roles and Responsibilities have been established to restrict certain users to different access levels, please describe the roles and associated access levels. Explain the need for VA contractors to have access to the PII. This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors, and Service Providers.

8.2a Has a contractor confidentiality agreement, Business Associate Agreement (BAA), or a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) been developed for contractors who work on the system?

Riverain technical support team will have access to the system for installation and troubleshooting purposes. MOU/ISA has been established between VA and Riverain Technologies. MOU/ISA is reviewed annually by VA and Riverain Technologies.

8.2a. Will VA contractors have access to the system and the PII?

Riverain technical support team will have access to the system for installation and troubleshooting purposes.

8.2b. What involvement will contractors have with the design and maintenance of the system?

Riverain technical support team will have access to the system for installation and troubleshooting purposes.

8.3 Describe what privacy training is provided to users either generally or specifically relevant to the program or system.

VA offers privacy and security training. Each program or system may offer training specific to the program or system that touches on information handling procedures and sensitivity of information. Please describe how individuals who have access to PII are trained to handle it appropriately. This question is related to privacy control AR-5, Privacy Awareness and Training.

Annual VA Talent Management System (TMS) Privacy and Security training for system administrators.

8.4 The Authorization and Accreditation (A&A) completed for the system.

Yes

8.4a If completed, provide:

- 1. The Security Plan Status: Complete
- 2. The System Security Plan Status Date: 8/19/2024
- 3. The Authorization Status: The system has been granted Provisional ATO on 5/30/2023.
- 4. The Authorization Date: May 30, 2023
- 5. The Authorization Termination Date: 10/9/2026
- 6. The Risk Review Completion Date: 12/8/2022
- 7. The FIPS 199 classification of the system (LOW/MODERATE/HIGH): MODERATE

Please note that all systems containing SPI are categorized at a minimum level of "moderate" under Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 199.

8.4b If not completed or In Process, provide your Initial Operating Capability (IOC) date.

The system has been authorized.

Section 9 - Technology Usage

The following questions are used to identify the technologies being used by the IT system or project.

9.1 Does the system use cloud technology? If so, what cloud model is being utilized?

If so, Does the system have a FedRAMP provisional or agency authorization? If the system does use cloud technology, but does not have FedRAMP authorization, explain how the Cloud Service Provider (CSP) solution was assessed and what FedRAMP documents and processes were used for the assessment in order to comply with VA Handbook 6517. Types of cloud models include: Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Platform as a Service (PaaS), Commercial off the Shelf (COTS), Desktop as a Service (DaaS), Mobile Backend as a Service (MBaaS), Information Technology Management as a Service (ITMaaS). This question is related to privacy control UL-1, Information Sharing with Third Parties. (Refer to question 1.8 of the PTA)

The system will be hosted in VA Enterprise Cloud- Microsoft Azure. Cloud Model being utilized is Platform as a Service (PaaS).

9.2 Does the contract with the Hosting Cloud Service Provider, Contractors and VA customers establish who has ownership rights over data including PII? (Provide contract number and supporting information about PII/PHI from the contract). (Refer to question 3.3.1 of the PTA) This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors, and Service Providers.

Not applicable, this system is not a long-term storage and does not retain any PII/PHI for anyone to own.

9.3 Will the CSP collect any ancillary data and if so, who has ownership over the ancillary data?

Per NIST 800-144, cloud providers hold significant details about the accounts of cloud consumers that could be compromised and used in subsequent attacks. Ancillary data also involves information the cloud provider collects or produces about customer-related activity in the cloud. It includes data collected to meter and charge for consumption of resources, logs and audit trails, and other such metadata that is generated and accumulated within the cloud environment.

This question is related to privacy control DI-1, Data Quality.

Not applicable, this system is not a long-term storage and does not retain any ancillary data for anyone to own.

9.4 NIST 800-144 states, "Organizations are ultimately accountable for the security and privacy of data held by a cloud provider on their behalf." Is this principle described in contracts with customers? Why or why not?

What are the roles and responsibilities involved between the organization and cloud provider, particularly with respect to managing risks and ensuring organizational requirements are met? This question is related to privacy control AR-3, Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers.

Each application in the VAEC is responsible for their data. For all cloud deployment types, the customer owns their data and identities. The customer is responsible for protecting the security of their data and identities, on-premises resources, and the cloud components they control (which varies by service type). This is the Shared Responsibility Model for Security in the Cloud.

9.5 If the system is utilizing Robotics Process Automation (RPA), please describe the role of the bots.

Robotic Process Automation is the use of software scripts to perform tasks as an automated process that executes in parallel with or in place of human input. For example, will the automation move or touch PII/PHI information. RPA may also be referred to as "Bots" or Artificial Intelligence (AI).

This system is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) solution and an imaging technology that aids in detection and characterization of lung nodules from Computerized Tomography (CT) scans for lung cancer detection and tracking by consolidating traditional CT images to create a secondary series that suppresses vessels and other normal structures in the lung to offer an unimpaired view for clinicians.

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Section 10. References

Summary of Privacy Controls by Family

Summary of Privacy Controls by Family

ID	Privacy Controls	
AP	Authority and Purpose	
AP-1	Authority to Collect	
AP-2	Purpose Specification	
AR	Accountability, Audit, and Risk Management	
AR-1	Governance and Privacy Program	
AR-2	Privacy Impact and Risk Assessment	
AR-3	Privacy Requirements for Contractors and Service Providers	
AR-4	Privacy Monitoring and Auditing	
AR-5	Privacy Awareness and Training	
AR-7	Privacy-Enhanced System Design and Development	
AR-8	Accounting of Disclosures	
DI	Data Quality and Integrity	
DI-1	Data Quality	
DI-2	Data Integrity and Data Integrity Board	
DM	Data Minimization and Retention	
DM-1	Minimization of Personally Identifiable Information	
DM-2	Data Retention and Disposal	
DM-3	Minimization of PII Used in Testing, Training, and Research	
IP	Individual Participation and Redress	
IP-1	Consent	
IP-2	Individual Access	
IP-3	Redress	
IP-4	Complaint Management	
SE	Security	
SE-1	Inventory of Personally Identifiable Information	
SE-2	Privacy Incident Response	
TR	Transparency	
TR-1	Privacy Notice	
TR-2	System of Records Notices and Privacy Act Statements	
TR-3	Dissemination of Privacy Program Information	
UL	Use Limitation	
UL-1	Internal Use	
UL-2	Information Sharing with Third Parties	

Signature of Responsible Officials
The individuals below attest that the information provided in this Privacy Impact Assessment is true and accurate.
Privacy Officer, Philip Cauthers
Information Systems Security Officer, Stuart Chase
Information Systems Owner, Temperance Leister

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APPENDIX A-6.1

Please provide a link to the notice or verbiage referred to in Section 6 (a notice may include a posted privacy policy; a Privacy Act notice on forms; screen shot of a website collection privacy notice).

The VHA Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP) https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub_ID=9946

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HELPFUL LINKS:

Records Control Schedule 10-1 (va.gov)

General Records Schedule

https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/grs.html

National Archives (Federal Records Management):

https://www.archives.gov/records-mgmt/grs

VA Publications:

https://www.va.gov/vapubs/

VA Privacy Service Privacy Hub:

https://dvagov.sharepoint.com/sites/OITPrivacyHub

Notice of Privacy Practice (NOPP):

https://www.va.gov/vhapublications/ViewPublication.asp?pub ID=9946

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